



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re F	Patent Application of)	
Thoma	as BRODIN et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1627
Applic	ation No.: 09/365,241)) \	Examiner: Padmashri Ponnaluri
Filed:	July 30, 1999))	Confirmation No.: 1539
For:	IN SITU IDENTIFICATION OF TARGET STRUCTURES E.G. IN VIVO SELECTION METHOD FOR A PHAGE LIBRARY (AS AMENDED))))	

REPLY TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper responds to the Election Requirement dated October 8, 2002 (Paper No. 27) in connection with the above-identified application. This response is timely filed.

Applicants hereby elect, albeit <u>with traverse</u>, the species of antibody-identifying sequence information of nucleic acid.

M.P.E.P. § 803 states than an application may be properly restricted to one or more claimed inventions only if 1) the inventions are independent or distinct as claimed, and 2) there is a serious burden on the Examiner if the restriction is not required. Thus, even if appropriate reasons exist for requiring restriction, such a restriction should not be made unless there is an undue burden on the Examiner-to-examine-all-of the claims in a single application. Applicants respectfully assert that this species election is unwarranted. Specifically, for a restriction requirement under M.P.E.P. § 816 an explanation of species distinction and their mutual exclusivity (see M.P.E.P. § 806.04(f)) must be provided along with an explanation of why the burden is undue. Applicants respectfully submit that no showing has been made as required by the M.P.E.P. (either in the present Office Action or

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in the previous Office Action), but rather the Examiner merely states that a species must be elected.

Applicants further submit that under M.P.E.P. § 804(f), claims restricted to different species must be mutually exclusive. The present generic claim is a method claim which recites steps which are employed with both species named by the Examiner, therefore, they are not mutually exclusive. Applicants emphasize that the presently claimed invention is a screening process in which the same steps are employed to practice regardless of the type of antibody-identifying sequence information. The method steps utilizing either species are the same and the same search is required regardless of type of antibody-identifying sequence information. The claimed method centers on the use of the selection process, not type of antibody-identifying sequence information. Electing a particular species here adds another layer of unnecessary complexity which adds to the search burden, it does not ease it. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this category should be eliminated.

Applicants do not elect a single monoclonal antibody as requested in the election requirement because one cannot be elected due to the nature of the invention. Applicants' undersigned representative conducted a telephone conference with Examiner Ponnaluri concerning this issue on October 17, 2002. During this conversation, it was established that the presently claimed invention is directed to a screening method using, *inter alia*, a monoclonal antibody library. Accordingly, a single monoclonal antibody cannot be elected for purposes of searching and examining the presently claimed invention. The Examiner agreed with this assessment and indicated that the election requirement was based on a misunderstanding of the claim-language.—Applicants' undersigned representative was informed by the Examiner that a single species for this requirement did not need to be elected.

Thus, for at least all of the reasons set forth above, withdrawal of the requirement for election of species is requested and believed to be in order. Further and favorable consideration of all the claims of record on the merits is respectfully requested.

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In the event that the Examiner has any outstanding issues, she is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at her convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 28, 2002



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In re Patent Application of) Thomas BRODIN et al. Group Art Unit: 1627 Application No.: 09/365,241 Examiner: Padmashri Ponnaluri Filed: July 30, 1999 Confirmation No.: 1539 For: IN SITU IDENTIFICATION OF TARGET STRUCTURES E.G. IN VIVO SELECTION METHOD FOR A PHAGE LIBRARY (AS AMENDED) REPLY TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231 Sir: Enclosed is a Reply to Election Requirement for the above-identified patent application. [] A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed. A Terminal Disclaimer and a check for [] \$55.00 (2814) [] \$110.00 (1814) to cover the [] requisite Government fee are also enclosed. Also enclosed is ___ [] Small entity status is hereby claimed. Applicant(s) request continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the [] \$370.00 (2801) [] \$740.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e). [] Applicant(s) previously submitted ___, on ___, for which continued examination is requested. Applicant(s) request suspension of action by the Office until at least, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.

A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a)

(146/246) is also enclosed.

X

No additional claim fee is required.

[] An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

	No. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADDT'L FEE
Total Claims	33	MINUS 53 =	-0-	× \$18.00 (1202) =	-0-
Independent Claims	1	MINUS 3 =	-0-	× \$84.00 (1201) =	-0-
If Amendment adds mu	ltiple depend	lent claims, add \$28	0.00 (1203)		
Total Amendment Fee				T	
If small entity status is	claimed, sub	tract 50% of Total A	Amendment F	ee	 .
TOTAL ADDITIONA	L FEE DUE	FOR THIS AMEN	NDMENT		- 0-

[] A claim fee in the amount of \$ is enclosed.	
[] Charge \$to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.	
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R.	
§§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayme	nt,
to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate	

Respectfully submitted,

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